

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The portion method of claim 17 2, wherein said portion has two opposing surfaces and contains fibers that are substantially normal to said opposing surfaces.

4. (currently amended) The portion method of claim 17 2, wherein said portion has two opposing surfaces and contains fibers that are substantially parallel to said opposing surfaces.

5. (currently amended) The portion method of claim 17 2, further comprising: applying at least one electrode to each opposing surface.

6. (currently amended) The portion method of claim 5, wherein a plurality of interdigitized electrodes are applied.

7. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 4, wherein laminating said planar layers comprises interleaving planar layers of varying fiber characteristics.

8. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 7, wherein said layers of varying fiber characteristics have different fiber concentrations.

9. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 7, wherein said layers of varying fiber characteristics have fibers of different average diameters.

10. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 7, wherein a different set of electrodes is applied to said layers of varying fiber characteristics.

11. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 4, wherein said layers have substantially similar fiber characteristics.
12. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 4, further comprising poling said sectioned portion.
13. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 4, wherein said piezoelectric material is at least one of PZT (lead zirconium titanate), lead niobate (PbNbO<sub>6</sub>), lead titanate (PbTiO<sub>3</sub>), barium titanate (BaTiO<sub>3</sub>), sodium bismuth titanate (pure or co-doped), lead based ceramics doped with lanthanum, tin, or niobium, electrostrictive materials, memory piezoelectric materials, or relaxor materials.
14. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 4, wherein each opposing side of said portion has an area greater than about 1.5cm<sup>2</sup>.
15. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 4, wherein the variation of fiber concentration is no greater than about 20%/cm<sup>3</sup>.
16. (currently amended) A fiber assembly made from a the method of manufacturing a fiber assembly, said method comprising:  
providing a plurality of layers, each layer comprising sintered fibers of piezoelectric material aligned substantially parallel;  
laminating said plurality of layers; and  
applying a matrix material to the laminated layers to affix said layers and form a fiber assembly of claim 4.
17. (currently amended) A portion made from the method of claim 2 a method of manufacturing a fiber assembly, said method comprising:  
providing a plurality of layers, each layer comprising sintered fibers of piezoelectric material aligned substantially parallel;  
laminating said plurality of layers;

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/664,802  
Attorney Docket No. P23,612-B USA  
Page 4

applying a matrix material to the laminated layers to affix said layers and form  
a fiber assembly; and  
sectioning said portion from said fiber assembly.

18-20. (cancelled)